

Message Text

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ACTION EB-03

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 ARA-10 L-02 CAB-01 COME-00 NSC-07

NSCE-00 INR-10 CIAE-00 SP-01 RSC-01 DRC-01 /051 W

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R 211535Z MAY 74

FM AMEMBASSY PORT AU PRINCE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7974

C O N F I D E N T I A L PORT AU PRINCE 0924

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ETRN, HA

SUBJECT: HAITIAN CIVIL AVIATION AFFAIRS

REF: STATE 98983

1. IN DISCUSSION ON SUBJECT OF HAITI AIR TRANSPORT WITH
EMBASSY OFFICER ON MAY 20, HAITIAN SECRETARY OF COMMERCE
AND INDUSTRY MADE FOLLOWING POINTS:

(A) IT WOULD BE USEFUL IF DEPT. COULD MAKE FORMAL
RESPONSE TO HAITIAN NOTE, EXPRESSING WILLINGNESS TO BE
AS HELPFUL AS POSSIBLE BUT POINTING OUT ADMINISTRATIVE
PROCEDURES MAKE IT UNLIKELY THAT CAB WILL BE ABLE TO ISSUE
ITS DECISION FOR SEVERAL MONTHS;

(B) GOH WOULD BE APPRECIATIVE IF U.S. AUTHORITIES COULD
LOOK INTO POSSIBILITY OF U.S. AIRLINE ASSISTANCE FOR HAT ON
A COMMERCIAL BASIS; AND

(C) GOH WILL PROBABLY SEND NOTE THROUGH ITS WASHINGTON
EMBASSY FORMALLY WITHDRAWING THE AIR HAITI AND HAITI OVERSEAS
APPLICATIONS NOW BEFORE THE BOARD.

2. EMBOFF RECEIVED IMPRESSION THAT SECRETARY PERSONALLY
WELCOMED DELAY IN OBTAINING U.S. LANDING PERMIT SINCE IT WILL
GIVE HIM MORE TIME TO PERSUADE OTHER GOH OFFICIALS EITHER THAT
IT IS UNWISE TO START INTERNATIONAL OPERATIONS OR THAT AT LEAST
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SUCH OPERATIONS SHOULD BE DELAYED OR REDUCED IN SCOPE.

3. ACTUAL RELATIONSHIP OF HAT AND AIR FRANCE ARE STILL IN STATE OF FLUX. AT MOMENT, HAT HAS TAKEN OVER AIR FRANCE EMPLOYEES AT AIRPORT AND IS PAYING THEIR SALARIES. AIR FRANCE IS PAYING HAT \$130 PER LANDING (IN ADDITION TO CUSTOMARY LANDING FEES) WHICH APPARENTLY IS SUFFICIENT TO PAY THE SALARIES OF THESE EMPLOYEES. IN TURN, AIR FRANCE WANTS TO PROVIDE HAT WITH SERVICES IN NEW YORK.

4. SECRETARY ALSO STATED THAT PRESIDENT WAS ANXIOUS FOR PAN AMERICA TO CONTINUE MANAGING AIRPORT.
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Message Attributes

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